



Helping homeowners rebuild using energy-efficient technologies, methods and materials.



## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 19, 2004

MEDIA CONTACT:  
Nicole Hall (858) 492-5009

### **Energy Efficiency Program Offers San Diego Firestorm Victims Rebates for Rebuilding Green**

*Financial packages offer rebates as much as \$2,000 to eligible residents*

**SAN DIEGO, CA**—San Diego City and County residents whose homes were destroyed in the Cedar, Paradise and Otay fires in October 2003 now can receive technical support and financial rebates for reconstructing their homes using energy-efficient technologies, methods and materials through the *Rebuild a Greener San Diego* program.

Jointly developed and sponsored by the City of San Diego, County of San Diego, the San Diego Regional Energy Office (SDREO) and San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E), the *Rebuild a Greener San Diego* program offers eligible residents two financial incentive packages for using energy-efficient materials and installing energy efficient equipment in their new or reconstructed homes and/or installing photovoltaic systems.

“Rebuilding homes with energy-efficient technology just makes sense,” said Mayor Dick Murphy, City of San Diego. “We hope that all San Diegans who unfortunately lost their homes in the 2003 firestorms will take advantage of this program and experience long-term savings that are possible with energy efficient technology.”

To be eligible for the rebates, City and County residents’ reconstructed or rebuilt homes must be connected to the San Diego Gas and Electric electrical distribution system. Commercial, multifamily or accessory buildings that were destroyed in the October 2003 firestorm may also qualify for energy-efficiency or self-generation incentives under the program on a case-by-case basis.

~more~

**ADD--Page 2—Energy Efficiency Program Offers Rebates for Rebuilding Green...**

“This program is another way we can support our customers as they continue to rebuild their lives,” said Debra Reed, president and chief financial officer of San Diego Gas & Electric. “Programs like this enable customers to rebuild homes and businesses in an energy efficient manner.”

The ***Rebuild a Greener San Diego*** program’s two packages offer financial incentives of \$1,700 or \$2,000 to residents who rebuild their homes with energy-efficient materials and energy-efficient equipment. Financial incentives of \$4 per watt per resident are also available for residents who install solar electric (photovoltaic) systems (0.5 to 5 kW total system size). In addition to financial incentives, the program will offer residents energy-efficiency and self-generation information, plus technical assistance through workshops, the program’s website and informational handouts.

According to Irene M. Stillings, Executive Director of SDREO, “Residents who install photovoltaic systems to generate their own electricity not only benefit from lower bills, they help the community as well. It’s clean power that helps reduce demand on our local grid and reduces the need for new and expensive infrastructure.”

"Cost savings to the homeowners and consumers and energy savings over a sustained period of time, this is a win-win situation for San Diego County," Vice Chairwoman of the County Board of Supervisors, Pam Slater-Price, said. "I'd like to help the victims of the fire any way I can. This program provides some assistance and helps to rebuild a greener San Diego to benefit all county residents."

To verify eligibility, request an application or for more information, please contact the ***Rebuild a Greener San Diego*** toll free hotline at (877) 284-5373 or visit the program website at <http://www.rebuildsandiego.org>.

Program applications must be submitted by November 30, 2005 and all projects must be completed by December 1, 2006. Incentive funds are available on a first come, first served basis. This program is funded by California ratepayers under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.

###